

A BUSHIRE OFFICIAL?

By M.J. Burrows

The Persian sea-port of Bushire was occupied by the British on the 8th August 1915. In the autumn, the Viceroy of India addressed the Indian Legislative Council and announced that the occupation would continue until the Persian Government were able to get their house in order. A new Persian Governor took over the control of Bushire on 16th October 1-915, thereby bringing the British occupation to a close.

During the occupation various Persian stamps that were on hand were overprinted, proliably by native labour, on a small hand press obtained from the British Residency. However, the so called officials have never been, to my knowledge, given catalogue status.

On page 248 of volume 25 of the Philatelist can be found an illustration of a strip of three of thb official stamp. Of interest to perfin collectors is the fact that this apparently unused strip is perforated with the letter "F". It is unfortunate that the overprinting does not allow the perfin to reproduce very clearly.

This rare item was part of the marvellous 1914-18 War Stamp collection formed by the Marquess of Bute. The second portion of which was auctioned by Robson Lowe on 20th May 1959.